



March 30, 2009

Maryland Health Care Commission
Pamela Barclay, Director, Center for Hospital Services
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Re: Request for Informal Public Comment on Proposed Amendments to State
Health Plan for Facilities and Services: Specialized Health Care Services- Cardiac
Surgery and Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Services

Dear Ms. Barclay:

This letter is written by Carroll Hospital Center (CHC) to support the proposed change to
COMAR 10.24.17 regarding the door-to-balloon time for primary PCI patients.

CHC began its primary PCI program in October, 2008 and set for itself an internal
standard to meet the 90 minutes door to balloon time on 80% of patients treated. CHC
has been able to achieve this standard and therefore has greatly reduced the door to
balloon time that patients experienced prior to CHC implementing the program.

CHC is fully supportive of the MHCC updating this standard to reflect the American
College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie Simmons".

Leslie Simmons, MA, BSN, MA
Chief Operating Officer
Sr. Vice-President, Patient Care Services

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